

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 have been examined. Claims 1 and 6 were rejected. Claims 2-5 and 7-9 have been objected to. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended herein. Claims 10-15 have been added. No claims have been cancelled. After amendment, claims 1-15 remain. Reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments and remarks herein is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese reference JP-0455781 (“JP-781”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Independent claims 1 and 6, as amended, require that the first voltage detecting circuit be coupled to the first switch and the battery. In contrast, the voltage detector 15 in JP-781 is not connected to the battery. Instead, it is coupled to the external charging power supply and the calculator. Moreover, the switch (which the Examiner points out bears reference numeral 12) in JP-781 neither electrically connects nor electrically disconnects the battery from the battery capacity indicating means. In fact, in JP-781, *the cut-off circuit 16* electrically connects and disconnects the battery 1 with the remaining battery capacity indicating means. As is seen in Figure 1 of JP-781, when the battery voltage detected by the A/D converter 14 falls below a first predetermined value, the cut off circuit 16 (not the switch 12) cuts off the power from the battery 1 to the remaining battery capacity indicating means. Moreover, when the cut-off circuit 16 cuts off power from the battery, current will still be supplied to the A/D converter 14. Thus, should the Examiner change her mind and determine that the A/D converter 14 is the first voltage

detecting circuit instead of the voltage detector 15, Applicant respectfully submits that JP-781 still does not anticipate claims 1 or 6.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,920,341 (“the ‘341 patent”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. In apparatus described in the ‘341 patent, the switch (which the Examiner points out bears reference numeral 6) electrically connects and disconnects the battery 1 with the remaining battery capacity indicating means 9. The Office Action states that the protection circuit 2 in the ‘341 patent is the voltage detection circuit found in claims 1 and 6 and in fact, the protection circuit 2 in the ‘341 patent detects battery voltage. When the battery voltage detected by protection circuit 2 falls below a first predetermined value, the switch 6 turns off. However, as can be seen in each of the figures of the ‘341 patent, current will *always* be supplied from the battery 1 to the protection circuit 2, *regardless* of the state of the switch 6. Because of this, Applicant respectfully submits that since claims 1 and 6 both require that the cut-off circuit cut off the flow of current from the battery to the first voltage detecting circuit when the first switch has been turned off, the ‘341 patent cannot anticipate either claim.

Claim Objections

Applicant acknowledges the objections to claims 2-5 and 7-9. However, as seen above, claims 1 and 6, from which claims 2-5 and 7-9 depend, are allowable over the cited references.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant is submitting herewith an English translation of JP-0455781.

Conclusion

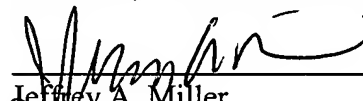
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (650) 614-7660. If there are any additional fees required, please charge Deposit Account No. 15-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

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By:



Jeffrey A. Miller
Reg. No. 35,287

Four Park Plaza, Suite 1600
Irvine, California 92614-2558
(650) 614-7660